

IN THE CLAIMS:

4. (once amended) The fiber rendering apparatus of claim 3, wherein
 $X_{n+1} = FA_n \cdot X_n$,

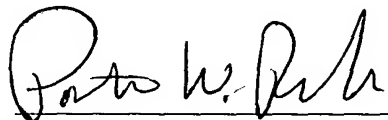
where X_{n+1} represents an opacity at a neighbor point, FA_n represents an FA value at the immediately preceding neighbor point or tracking start point, and X_n represents an opacity thereat.

Remarks

Please enter the foregoing preliminary amendment prior to examination of the present application. Claims 1-6 are now pending in this application. Applicant submits that this Amendment adds no new matter.

Submitted herewith are marked up Claims in accordance with 37 C.F.R.
1.121(c)(1)(ii).

Respectfully Submitted,



Patrick W. Rasche
Registration No. 37,916
ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600
St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2740
(314) 621-5070